ACPC'S export retention scheme

860. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is a member of the Association of Coffee Producing Countries (ACPC) and if so, whether it is bound to adhere to the ACPC'S export retention scheme;

(b) whether the current international prices for Robusta grade coffee will require 20 per cent retention by member countries; and

(c) what is the percentage of Robusta grade coffee in total coffee exports from India and whether the continuance of export retention scheme will affect our coffee export targets for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir. India is not *a* member and, therefore not bound to adhere to the ACPC'S Export Rentention Scheme.

(b) Yes, Sir. As per the ACPC'S retention plan, 20% retention will come into effect if the 20 day moving average of ICO Robusta Indicator Price falls below the level 135 cents.

(c) Out of the total quantity of coffee exported from India, the quantity of Robusta account for approximately 55% on an average. Implementation of Export Retention Scheme by members of ACPC is likely to result in reduced supply of coffee to world market. Therefore, it may improve the prospects for higher exports by non-member countries including India.

Assistance fo backward and adivasi dominated States

861. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the amount of special Central Assistance to the Backward and Adivasi dominated States for various sub-plans and programme during the Eighth Plan Period as compared to the Seventh Plan Period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) The Special Central Assistance (SCA) allocated during Seventh Five Year Plan was Rs. 756 a ores which has been enhanced to Rs. 1250 crores during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

(b) A Statement is annexed.

STATEMENT

Allocation of Special Central Assistance (SCA) under Tribal Sub-Plan during Seventh Five Year Plan (1985—90) and Eighth Five Year Plan (1992—97)

(Rs. lakhs)

	States /Union territoris	Seventh Plan		Eighth Plan
		Allocation	Released	Allocation
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3654	5166	7328
2.	Assam	3192	3722	5559
3.	Bihar	9589	11412	15516
4.	Gurjarat	5651	6664	9826